

Domestic Violence: An analysis with rural areas perspective

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Abstract:-

Generally domestic violence is violence of mental, physical, and sexual abuse by family member. Violence against women is a serious problem of our society. No state is immune from domestic violence, it's a global issue with high rates of physical abuse in society especially in rural area. Women face various forms of domestic violence irrespective of caste, class, religion. Commonly intimate partner violence against women is a major health problem violence against girls or women's refers to the violation of human rights of women. One thing that is commonly observed in rural areas is that many women's are victim of violence in rural areas but they hesitate to disclose the incidence of violence to their family, friends, and neighbors. Many times it is seen that this ambivalence of abused women leads to their death. The problem of domestic violence in India has socio-cultural roots which need to be addressed. Country's long term and hostile legal system makes it almost impossible for girls or women to protest against their rights and dignity.

Introduction:-

The position of women in the Indian social system is inconsequential. This society is a patriarchal society. Here women never got equal rights to men. They are oppressed, deprived in male dominated society and face discrimination in every sphere of life. Male dominance is noticeable in all social, economic and political fields. Even though the education rate of women increased in India after independence, the rate of oppression did not decrease. And domestic violence is the most common crime against women.

Domestic violence refers to abuse that is perpetrated by one or more family members, especially emotional or physical abuse of women out of jealousy¹. Even before birth, girls are subjected to family violence due to gender discrimination caused by a lack of social values. In many cases, the fetus is killed because of girl child. Also when a girl child is born, the mother of the girl child has to face various kinds of abuse and torture. There is no doubt that the mother of female children face domestic violence from childbirth onwards. Not only the women but sometimes men are also victims of domestic violence. It is a major social problem².

Violence against women in any form is a tragic problem in our society. Since women are a major part of society and they play equal roles and responsibilities in society, men try to assert power and control over women by using domestic violence.

History stands witness to the fact that women have always been recognised as a second class citizen throughout the world.

According to the great philosopher Confucius "The subordination of women to men was one of the supreme principal".

According to Aristotle "Women may be said to be inferior man".

Some of the causes of domestic violence:

- 1) Economic dependence on men is a root cause of violence. Women who are financially dependent on their partners are usually victims of violence due to a lack of economic independence.
- 2) Women become victims of domestic violence as a result of illiteracy.

3) Extramarital affairs are another cause of this problem.

4) Dowry system is also one of the leading cause which have consequence of violence against newly bride. When bride's parents fail to bring in sufficient dowry young brides are harassed, tortured and humiliated by their in-laws. Women are the soft target of this violence.

Impact of domestic violence:-

1) Creation of physical and mental weakness of girls. Domestic Violence often results in physical injuries. Injuries can be minor or they may require medical attention.

2) Special qualities of girls are not developed.

3) Increased inferiority of girls.

4) Lack of freedom of speech in a family or society.

5) Decrease in number of girl child.

6) Domestic violence can cause a great deal of emotional trauma for the victims. This may include feeling of fear, shame and humiliation.

As a result of violence, girls are brought up through the discrimination between son's and daughter's by parents, family and society that is -

a) Discrimination in access education

b) Girl's are victims of discrimination in fulfilling their needs

c) Being discriminated against to get independent entertainment

Domestic Violence preventive Act³ :-

The statute providing punishment for crimes against women are under following

a) Protection of women from domestic violence Act 2005 :-

The protection of women from domestic violence Act 2005 is an act of the parliament of India. It's a civil law that provides protection to women from men in the household. Main section of the domestic violence Act is section 3. It says any act or behaviour that has the potential to cause harm or injury is considered domestic violence. This act considers physical, sexual, phycological and economic abuse or threats.

b) Concept under Indian penal code:-

The Indian penal code is the official criminal code of the republic of India it is a complete code intended to cover all aspects of criminal law. It is a main criminal code of India. Various offences made under this code which is dealing with offences against the state, public, armed forces, kidnapping, murder and rape.

c) The code of criminal procedure- CRPC is the procedural law that provides a detailed procedure for punishments under penal laws.

d) Concept under special law:-

IPC Section 41 states that the term special law in IPC refers to a law that has been made specially to handle certain situation or a particular subject.

****Data of Domestic violence:-**

According to the annual reports of the National crimes record bureau domestic violence cases in India increased 53% between 2001-2018. Cases were filled under cruelty by husband or his relatives.

IPC frequency of rural or village areas data- 61% of isolated rural women reported physical violence in the past year compared with 39.3% of urban women. More than 30% of isolated rural women reported to very severe physical violence compared with 10% of urban women.

***Currently the government has arranged several schemes to empower women and make them self reliant:-**

1) **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao:-**

This project was launched on 22 January 2015. The primary objective of this project is to reduce the ratio of gender inequality and it's ensure protection of girls and their education, it is under the ministry of women and child welfare. The scheme achieved 94% success rate between 2019-2020.

2) **Pradhan Mantri Maitri Vandana Yojana:-**

The scheme is adopted by the government of India to provide protection to the pregnant mother and her child. Through this scheme pregnant women will get financial success of 6000 rupees. The objective of this project is to provide nutrition food to pregnant women and their Children to keep them healthy.

3) **Women helpline scheme:-**

It is a government scheme that provides 24×7 protection to women. A helpline number has been launched for this which is 181 it's applicable all over India and is managed by the ministry of women and child development.

4) **Mahila E-haat:-**

It is an online marketing platform where women can sell their products and buyers by products through telephonically, physically, email and other means. The initiative support the make in India program through an online platform and through this woman are economically empowered today.

Apart from the above scheme the scheme undertaken by the West Bengal state government for the development and empowerment of women are Kanyashree, Rupashree, Shikshashree etc.

From rural areas point of view:-

The proportion of schedule caste and scheduled tribes living in rural areas is mostly noticeable. Even with government facilities, many rural areas have lower education rates than urban areas. They used to busy earn bread and butter for their family and education is nothing but a luxury for them. Incidents of violence against women are often noticeable in villages . Alcohol addiction is one of the main reason, dissatisfaction with the dowry and infertility in female desire for male child. Village women are constantly facing challenges and problems.

However the state and central governments have initiated various schemes to improve the situation. Rural women still lag behind in achieving financial independence and social status due to illiteracy, poverty, health risks, social and family barriers. Rural areas women's or girls grow physically and mentally in an environment of backward education and social awareness. As a result they are bound to the mentality of being backward or dependent in education, workplace, and financial field. In the other hand, male dominated societies are constantly trying to make their self interested norms into the social order. In rural areas girl's average age of marriage is 13-15 years. The husband takes written permission from his wife for a second marriage trough violence commonly seen in rural areas because of hapless sexual relationship ⁴.Due to all these domestic and social violence, men always try to maintain their authority over the women's community in various ways in an effort to maintain their hold on society. Even after providing

remedial measures for crimes against women it becomes ineffective due to various causes. The reason for this is that the victimized women do not want to file any complaint of violence because they accept polygamy as a natural phenomenon of men's personality. There are various state-based organisations to stand against violence⁵. Although most of the women are unaware of anti torture laws or domestic violence remedial laws⁶. In many cases it is noticeable that women are unwilling to dishonor the family.

Conclusion:-

Domestic violence against women is a serious social problem. Violence is not only a violation of human rights of women but something that impairs their development. To liberate the oppressed women who have been oppressed for many years, social awareness, administrative management, NGO's and elimination of discrimination against women through curriculum and constitutional women protection laws should be made accessible and specific. United Nation creating awareness amongst the international community regarding domestic violence.

After all, in this era of all ground of competition, women are financially capable and absolutely necessary to eliminate gender inequality in society. This is essential to the education. Hence various schemes are absolutely necessary to achieve education which will definitely help in removing the disparity. Society must also be responsible. Awareness will be spread through publicity campaigns, government drama shows, etc. Equality of men and women is necessary in all fields because both the men and women are needed to build a beautiful society.

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